

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 24-30 are pending in the application and have been amended hereby. Claims 13-23 and 31-52 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

A new Abstract of the Disclosure in compliance with MPEP §608.01 is submitted herewith, as required in the Office Action at paragraph 2.

The pending claims have been amended to recite terms that are clearly supported in the drawings, as required in the Office Action at paragraph 3. In particular, the claimed separation unit is shown in Fig. 4, the claimed processing unit is shown in Fig. 5, and the claimed synthesis unit is shown in Fig. 6.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the objection to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83 (a).

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-52 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as being indefinite.

All pending claims have been amended to address all the issues pointed to in the Office Action at paragraph 4.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1 and 24, and the claims depending therefrom, are clear and definite in their recitation of the present invention and meet all requirements of 35 USC 112.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-52 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as being non-enabling.

All pending claims have been carefully amended to recite features described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention.

In particular, independent claims 1 and 24 have been amended to recite a separation unit (212 in Figs. 3 and 4) for separating a first vocal information part in a first language (D3 in Fig. 4) and an accompaniment information part (D2 in Fig. 4) from first vocal containing musical information (D1 in Fig. 4); a processing unit (321 in Figs. 3 and 5) for generating first language lyric information (labeled as such in Fig. 5) by speech recognition (321 a-c in Fig. 5) of the first vocal information part (D3 in Fig. 5), and for translating the generated first language lyric

information into second language lyric information of a second language (321 d-f in Fig. 5); and a synthesis unit (322 in Figs. 3 and 6) for synthesizing the second language lyric information (label as such in Fig. 6), the accompaniment information part (D2 in Fig. 6), and the first vocal information part (D3 in Fig. 6) to generate second vocal containing musical information (D5 in Fig. 6).

Further, the specification has been amended to correct the typographical errors pointed to in the Office Action at paragraph 6.

For example, the paragraph beginning in page 16, line 8, has been amended to change "storage unit 212" to --vocal separation unit 212--, as described in Fig. 3 and throughout the specification.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1 and 24, and the claims depending therefrom, recite features described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention and meet all requirements of 35 USC 112.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-52 under 35 USC 103, as being

unpatentable over Stelovsky '909 in view of Bordeaux and Lyberg.

It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Stelovsky '909 in view of Bordeaux and Lyberg fails to show or suggest a music processing apparatus for receiving first vocal containing musical information and separating a vocal information part in a first language and an accompaniment information part, and for producing second vocal containing musical information made of the original accompaniment part having a translated vocal information part superimposed thereon. Stelovsky '909 is merely disclosing a time-segmented multimedia game and, because there are no features in Bordeaux or Lyberg that somehow could be combined with Stelovsky '909 and result in the presently claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1 and 24, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentably distinct over Stelovsky '909 in view of Bordeaux and Lyberg.

The prior art made of record but not relied upon has been reviewed and is not seen to show or suggest the present invention as recited in the amended claims.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jay H. Maioli".

Jay H. Maioli

Reg. No. 27, 213

JHM/PCF

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADEIN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Please replace the entire Abstract of the Disclosure with the following new abstract.

--A music processing apparatus for receiving first vocal containing musical information and separating a vocal information part in a first language and an accompaniment information part, and for producing second vocal containing musical information made of the original accompaniment part having a translated vocal information part superimposed thereon.--

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please rewrite the paragraph beginning at line 10 of page 14 to read as follows.

-- A collation processing unit 104 collates the terminal ID data of the portable terminal device 3 sent along with the request information to the terminal ID data of the portable terminal device that is currently able to use the information distribution system (stored as user-related data in the storage unit 102) to send the results of

collation to the controller 101. Based on the results of collation, the controller then decides whether the information distribution system is or is not permitted to be used [to] by the portable terminal device 3 loaded on the intermediate transmission device 2 [of] as the destination of transmission of the request information.--

Please rewrite the paragraph beginning at line 8 of page 16 to read as follows.

-- The [storage] vocal separation unit 212 separates the musical number information, among the distribution information downloaded from the server device 1, containing the desired vocal, into the vocal part information (vocal information) and the accompaniment part information other than the vocal part (karaoke information) to output the separated information. The specified circuit structure of the vocal separation unit 212 will be explained subsequently.--

Please rewrite the paragraph beginning at line 7

of page 18 to read as follows.

--Referring to Fig.3, the portable terminal device 3 includes a controller 311 for controlling various parts of the portable terminal device 3, a ROM 312 having stored therein the program executed by the controller 311, a RAM 313 for transient data storage, a signal processing circuit 313 for reproducing and outputting audio data, an I/O port 317 for having communication with the intermediate transmission device 2, and a storage unit 320 for recording the information downloaded from the server device 1. The portable terminal device [2] 3 also includes a speech recognition translation unit 321 for translating the first language lyric information into a second language lyric information, a speech synthesis unit 322 for generating the novel vocal information based on the second language lyric information, a display unit 301 and a key actuating unit 302 actuated by a user. These circuits are interconnected over a busline B3.--

IN THE CLAIMS



Please amend claims 1-12 and 24-30 by rewriting same to read as follows and cancel claims 13-23 and 31-52, without prejudice or disclaimer.

--1. (Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a separation unit for separating [the lyric] a first vocal information part in a first language and an accompaniment information part from [the input] first vocal containing musical information;

a processing unit for generating [the] first language [letter] lyric information by speech recognition of the [lyric] first vocal information part separated by said separation unit, for translating the generated first language [letter] lyric information into [the] second language [letter] lyric information of a second language different from the first language [letter information and generating the speech information using at least], and for supplying the second language [letter] lyric information; and

a synthesis unit for synthesizing the [speech] second

language lyric information supplied from the processing unit, and the accompaniment information part, and the first vocal information part separated by said separation unit to generate [the synthesized] second vocal containing musical information, wherein the second vocal containing musical information includes the accompaniment information part and a second vocal information part in the second language.

--2. (Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said processing unit includes a first processor for [doing] performing speech recognition of the [lyric] first vocal information part separated by said separation unit and for generating the first language [letter] lyric information [and the second language letter information].

--3. (Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said [first] processing unit [does speech recognition for each language contained in the lyric information part separated by the separation unit]

further includes a second processor for performing a translation from the first language to the second language.

--4. (Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said second [processing unit] processor includes a first language storage unit having stored therein plural word data or plural sentence data [by a language for] of the first language of the first language [letter] lyric information, and

a second language storage unit having stored therein plural word data or plural sentence data [by a language for] of the second language of the second language [letter] lyric information, said first language storage unit having stored therein address data specifying an address of the second language storage unit having stored therein the word data or sentence data of the second language [letter information] associated with the word data or sentence data for the first language [letter information] stored in said first language storage unit.

--5. (Amended) The information processing apparatus

according to claim 4, wherein said second [processing unit] processor reads out from the first language storage unit plural word data or sentence data closest to [the] a combination of words speech-recognized by said first [processing unit,] processor along with the address data, to generate the first language [letter] lyric information, said second processing unit reading out based on the address data the word data or sentence data from the second language storage unit to generate said second language [letter] lyric information.

--6. (Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said [processing unit includes a speech synthesis unit for synthesizing the speech information using at least the second language letter information] first processor is a speech recognition processing unit.

--7. (Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said speech [synthesis] recognition processing unit [synthesizes the speech

information having characteristics of the lyric information part separated by said separation unit based on said lyric information part and the second language letter information] includes a word dictionary data unit.

--8. (Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said speech synthesis unit includes [an] a sound analysis unit for analyzing the [lyric] first vocal information part separated by said separation unit[, a speech generating unit for generating speech data based on the second language letter information and a converter for converting the speech data from said speech generating unit based on the results of analysis by said analysis unit].

--9. (Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising[:] a display unit for displaying [the] a processing state [by] of said processing unit.

--10. (Amended) The information processing apparatus

according to claim 9, wherein said display unit displays at least the fact that the accompaniment information part has been read and the fact that said first and/or second language [letter] lyric information has been generated.

--11. (Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising[:] a storage unit for storing the accompaniment information separated by said separation unit, the first language [letter] lyric information, the second language [letter] lyric information, and the [synthesized information synthesized] second vocal containing musical information generated by said synthesis unit.

--12. (Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising:

a first device; and

a second device removably connected to said first device[;], wherein said first device [having] includes said separation unit and said second device [having] including said processing unit and [the] said synthesis unit.

--24. (Amended) An information processing method comprising:

separating a [lyric] first vocal information part in a first language and an accompaniment information part from [the input] first vocal containing musical information;

generating [the] first language [letter] lyric information by speech recognition of the separated [lyric] first vocal information part;

converting the generated first language [letter] lyric information into [the] second language [letter] lyric information of a second language different from the first language [letter information];

generating the speech information using at least the converted second language letter information]; and

synthesizing the [generated speech] second language lyric information [and], the separated accompaniment information [to generate the synthesized information], and the separated first vocal information part to generate second vocal containing information, wherein the second vocal containing information includes the accompaniment

information part a second vocal information part in the second language.

--25. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 24, wherein the speech recognition used in generating the first language [letter] lyric information is performed in terms of [a word] words contained in [the separated lyric information part as a] a word dictionary data unit.

--26. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 25, wherein plural word data or plural sentence data [by a language] of the first language corresponding to the first language [letter] lyric information are stored in a first language storage unit;

plural word data or plural sentence data [by a] of the second language corresponding to the second language [letter] lyric information are stored in a second language storage unit; and wherein

in said first language storage unit, there is stored address data indicating the address of the second language



storage unit in which is stored the word data or sentence data for the second language [letter information] corresponding to the word data or sentence data for the first language [letter information] stored in said first language storage unit;

in generating said first language [letter] lyric information, plural word data or sentence data closest to [the] a combination of speech-recognized words are read out from the first language storage unit along with the address data to generate the first language [letter] lyric information; and [wherein]

in generating the second language letter information, word data or sentence data is read out from the second language storage unit to generate the second language [letter] lyric information based on the address data read out along with the word data or sentence data from the first language storage unit to generate said second language [letter] lyric information.

--27. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 24, wherein the [synthesis of the speech

information is performed by] synthesizing [the speech information having characteristics of] step includes a sound analysis unit for analyzing the separated [lyric] first vocal information part [based on the separated lyric information part and the second language letter information].

--28. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 27, wherein the [synthesis of the speech information is preformed by analyzing the separated lyric information part, generating the speech data based on the second language letter information and converting the generated speech data based on the analyzed results] synthesizing step includes a speech recognition processing unit.

--29. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 24, wherein[, in] the synthesizing [the speech information, display is made for specifying the] step includes displaying a processing state.

--30. (Amended) The information processing method according to claim 29, wherein [said display unit] the step of displaying a processing state displays at least the fact that the accompaniment information part has been read and the fact that said first and/or second language [letter] lyric information has been generated.--